REMARKS

Claims 1-48 are pending in the application.

The Examiner indicates allowability of claims 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 20, 24, 29, 31, 35, 38, 39, 41, 45 and 47 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. The Examiner rejects claims 1, 2, 6, 8-9, 12, 14-15, 17-18, 21, 23, 25-27, 30, 32-34, 36-37, 40, 42-43, 46 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Interrante et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,011,783). The Examiner rejects claims 4, 10 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Interrante in view of Tol et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,918,685). The Examiner rejects claims 16, 19, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Interrante.

The Applicant amends claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 18-19, 20-24, 27-31, 33-36, 38-42, 44-48 and adds claims 49-75. Claims 1-2, 4-16, 18-25, 27-31, 33-36, 38-42, and 44-75 remain in the case.

The Applicant adds no new matter and requests reconsideration.

Claims Allowed

The Applicant thanks Examiner Swerdlow for his indication of allowability of a claims 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 20, 24, 29, 31, 35, 38, 39, 41, 45 and 47.

The Applicant rewrites independent claims 5, 7, 11, 13, 20, 24, 29, 31, 35, 38, 39, 41, 45, and 47 in independent form to include all the limitations of the base and any intervening claims.

The Applicant amends claims 1, 9, and 23, to include limitations the Examiner indicates render the claims novel and non-obvious over the prior art.

New claims 49-75 depend from these allowable independent claims.

All other claims depend from allowable independent claims.

AMENDMENT

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Conclusion

The Applicant requests allowance of all claims as amended. The Applicant encourages the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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